

# **Blackfoot Fire District**

## **Profile of the District:**

The Blackfoot Fire District is a controlled fire department within Bingham County that has municipal, district, EMS, HazMat and rescue responsibilities. The topography of the area varies from flat farm and ranchlands to mountainous areas. The city is located between Pocatello and Idaho Falls on Interstate 15. The Snake River lies just to the west of the city and Blackfoot is home to the annual Eastern Idaho State Fair. During the month of September, the population of the city can grow by 20,000 to 25,000 people per day during the fair. In general, Blackfoot is currently experiencing moderate population growth.

## **Organizational Structure**

The Blackfoot Fire District reports to the Fire District Commission. The organizational structure consists of a chief, a secretary, a fire marshal, three captains, three sergeants, 12 paid firefighters/EMT's and 24 volunteer firefighters/EMT's

## **Facilities:**

The District has three fire stations, two in Blackfoot and one in the Rockford town site. The stations consist of one six bay station and two five bay stations. The District also shares a storage room for apparatus with the City of Blackfoot. Because the railroad tracks divides the City of Blackfoot, resulting in a slowed down response time, the Chief would like to see stations on the north and south ends of the Fire District and a station located on the east side of the railroad tracks.

## **Response Area:**

The Blackfoot Fire District provides fire protection for agricultural, rangelands, forest, wild land urban interface, residential, business, high risk and high tech. The District serves 15,000 square miles.

## **Budget and Funding:**

The District has experienced slight budget increases over the last five years. Approximately 33% of the budget comes from taxes with other sources generated from user fees and EMS services.

### **Grants:**

Grant funds have been received from the State IDS and EMS, from the BLM and U.S. Forest Service, from INEEL and from private foundations. The District is not yet familiar with the National Fire Plan, but hopes to seek more grants funding in the future.

### **Records Management:**

The District does maintain a computerized records management system. Record keeping includes training, personnel wage, apparatus and building maintenance.

### **Firefighting Program:**

The District covers both the City of Blackfoot and the surrounding area. There are 45 personnel within the firefighting program including both volunteer and paid staff. Fire response includes protection for structural protection, wild land suppression, EMS, HazMat, rescue and terrorist threat. The District reports that it responds to approximately 1,780 fire-related incidents annually. It has the capability of a 10-minute response time including command, scene size-up, rescue, ventilation, water supply and extinguishment. The District does not have a high risk for wild land urban interface fires but does have 23 firefighters trained in wild land suppression. The District is unsure if their area is high risk for terrorism. It was reported that the District has some adequate and reliable water sources. The primary water supply sources include water mains, hydrants and water tender operations.

### **Firefighting Program Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 Station, 11 Bays</li><li>• Volunteer &amp; Paid Personnel</li><li>• 4,250 Structural &amp; 1,000 Wild Land Total GPM Capacity</li><li>• Meets Minimum ISO Requirements</li><li>• Computerized Record Keeping System</li><li>• Fire Response: Structural, Wild Lands, Rangeland, Forest, Agricultural, Residential &amp; Business</li><li>• 4 Structural Vehicles; 5 Wild Land Vehicles; 2 Structural/Wild Land Vehicles</li><li>• Rescue Extrication Unit w/Pump and Water</li><li>• HazMat Trailer</li><li>• Meets NFPA Standards</li><li>• Grid Access Addressing System</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 Fire Stations</li><li>• Mobile Data Terminals for Response Vehicles</li><li>• Personnel</li><li>• 1-2 Pumper Trucks</li><li>• Grants for One-Time Purchases</li><li>• Grants for Proper Testing Equipment and Training</li><li>• Wild Land Training for All Staff</li></ul>

## **Hazardous Materials Program:**

The Blackfoot Fire District does have a HazMat response team including a HazMat trailer. All personnel have been trained to the operations level and there are 17 tech level personnel in the District. The District carries informal agreements with the Firth and Shelley Fire Departments. It also works with the INEEL when needed.

### **Hazardous Materials Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All Personnel Operations Level Trained</li><li>• 17 Personnel Tech Level Trained</li><li>• HazMat Trailer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved Rescue Truck</li></ul>

## **EMS Program:**

The District does provide EMS services. It has personnel trained as First Responders, EMT Basic and EMT Advanced-Intermediate. The District responds to approximately 1,358 EMS calls annually and the District is licensed to transport patients. There are five ambulances and a rescue/extrication vehicle.

### **EMS Program Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Responders</li><li>• Basic, Intermediate and Advanced Trained Personnel</li><li>• 5 Ambulances</li><li>• 1 Rescue/Extrication Vehicle</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Selected Personnel Receive Paramedic Training</li><li>• Replacement Rescue/Extrication Vehicle</li><li>• Upgrade Defibrillators</li></ul>

## **Training and Certification:**

The District does not have a set number of minimum requirements for training and certification. It has an ongoing training program it maintains. The District's training programs meet some of the NFPA, NWCG standards; and it does utilize the IFSA training program.

### **Training and Certification Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum Training Requirements</li><li>• Utilizes IFSTA Training Program</li><li>• Written Standard Operating Procedures</li><li>• IFSTA Manuals and Videos</li><li>• Model town for tabletop training and preplanning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outside Instructors</li></ul>

### **Communications:**

The District does have sufficient radio communication capacity. All vehicles are equipped with radios and the District does have sufficient hand-held units. All radios are multi-frequency capable but some radio communications are inadequate with other entities. Dispatch is handled through the Bingham County 911 service.

### **Communication Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Responds to Remote Alarm Calls</li><li>• Portable Radios</li><li>• All Vehicles Radio Equipped</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mobile Data Terminals</li><li>• Improve Communication with Other Entities</li></ul>

### **Prevention and Inspection:**

The District does administer and enforce Fire Code regulations. Fire cause and origin investigations are conducted as well.

### **Prevention and Inspection Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs**

<b>Existing Resources/Assets</b>	<b>Needs</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fire Code Enforcement</li><li>• Fire Cause and Origin Investigations Conducted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• "Learn Not to Burn" Demonstration Trailer</li></ul>

### **Public Education:**

The District does conduct public education programs for home safety. It also regularly participates in public outreach at schools, public events, the fire station open house, and fire station tours.

## Public Education Summary of Existing Resources, Assets and Needs

Existing Resources/Assets	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public Education Programs</li><li>• Outreach Education and Inspections</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Learn Not to Burn” Demonstration Trailer</li></ul>